What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of responding to an environmental event, comprising:

- 2 monitoring one or more event detectors within an environment;
- triggering an alarm when the one or more event detectors indicate an
- 4 environmental event has occurred;
- automatically notifying a monitoring service of the environmental
- 6 event;
- 7 verifying the existence of the environmental event;
- 8 requesting service from a pre-approved vendor, the pre-approved
- 9 vendor being qualified to address the environmental event; and
- verifying that the pre-approved vendor has addressed the
- 11 environmental event.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring one or more event
- 2 detectors is continuous.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the monitoring service is a fire alarm
- 2 monitoring service.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the monitoring service is a burglar
- 2 alarm service.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving data
- 2 from the monitoring service at a central location.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of receiving data is receiving

- 2 data over a communications network.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the pre-approved vendor is
- 2 automatically selected from a database containing one or more pre-selected
- wendors.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 requesting that the pre-approved vendor repair damage caused by the
- 3 environmental event; and
- 4 verifying that the pre-approved vendor has repaired the damage.

1 9. A system for responding to an environmental event, comprising:

- an event detector to detect the environmental event;
- a monitoring system connected to the event detector, the monitoring
- 4 system configured to generate an alarm when the environmental event is
- 5 detected;
- a dispatch system to receive the alarm from the monitoring system;
- 7 and
- a database accessible by the dispatch system, the database containing
- 9 pre-approved vendors, the pre-approved vendors qualified to address the
- 10 environmental event.
- 1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the dispatch system initiates selection
- 2 of a pre-approved vendor by the database in response to the alarm.
- 1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the alarm has data related to the
- 2 environmental event and the database selects a pre-approved vendor
- 3 according to the data.
- 1 12. The system of claim 9, wherein the event detector is continuously
- 2 monitored by the monitoring system.
- 1 13. The system of claim 9, wherein the monitoring system is a fire alarm
- 2 monitoring system.
- 1 14. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the monitoring system is a burglar
- 2 alarm system.

1 15. The system of claim 9, wherein the dispatch system receives the alarm

- 2 over a communications network.
- 1 16. The system of claim 9, wherein the dispatch system automatically
- 2 selects a pre-approved vendor from the database.

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2 receiving a notification of the environmental event from an authorized

- 3 source;
- 4 identifying the environmental event;
- selecting a pre-approved vendor, the pre-approved vendor being
- 6 qualified to address the environmental event;
- 7 requesting service from the pre-approved vendor; and
- 8 verifying that the pre-approved vendor has addressed the
- 9 environmental event.
- 1 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step verifying the
- 2 identity of the authorized source.
- 1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of receiving a notification is
- 2 receiving a notification through a global communications network.
- 1 20. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of selecting the pre-
- 2 approved vendor is automatically selecting the pre-approved vendor from a
- 3 database containing one or more pre-approved vendors.